



Marilou Wald Smith

January 18, 1927 - January 7, 2021

Marilou Wald Smith, age 93, passed to the arms of her heavenly Father on January 7, 2021. She was born January 18, 1927 to Carl B. Wald and Bernadine Crowley Wald. She was preceded in death by her brother, Carl "Ben" Wald (Kathy), and her sister Joann Perretta (George). She is survived by her sister, Phyllis "Tootsie" (Bob) Tangeman of Sunrise, Florida. A native Daytonian, she graduated from Julienne High School in '45, where she was the Senior Class President and Class Valedictorian. She had a life-long love of Julienne and the Sisters of Notre Dame and maintained treasured lifelong friendships with many of her high school friends. She was later inducted into the combined Chaminade-Julienne Catholic High School "Hall of Distinguished Alumni" in 1999.

Survivors include her beloved husband of 72 years, Thomas A. Smith. Together they raised seven wonderful children, Jennifer (Rick) Winkeller, McCall, Idaho; Shelley (Ron) Brinkman, Morrow, Ohio; Scott (Ann) Smith, Grand Blanc, Michigan; Michelle (Chris) Dralle, Bozeman, Montana; Lissa Smith (Helen Gerakios, deceased), Richmond, Virginia formerly Sydney, Australia; Susan (Marc) Gaunce, Columbus, Ohio; Stasia (Chris) Shephard, Oakwood, Ohio and grandchildren, Drew (Noelle) Brinkman, Shannon Brinkman, Lauren Allen, Christopher Smith, Abbey (Mike Hoey) Smith, Joseph Procnier, Samuel (Jodi) Procnier, Rachel and Mitchell Gaunce (Maxwell Gaunce, deceased); David, Sophie, Charlotte, and Sally Shephard and great-grandchildren Zeke Allen, Luke and Josh Brinkman, and Dominic Hoey.

After her children were raised, she became very active in community service, serving the City of Kettering, first with the Sister City Committee, eight years on City Council, and then as Kettering's 1st Woman Mayor for two terms from 1998-2006. She was proud to represent the citizens of Kettering and worked tirelessly on their behalf. She felt fortunate to work with her colleagues on the City of Kettering staff and the other women Mayors in the Miami Valley area at the time: Dayton Mayor, Rhine McLin, Oakwood Mayors, Gretchen Bullock and Judy Cook, Bellbrook Mayor, Mary Graves, Centerville Mayor, Sally Beals, West Carrollton Mayor, Maxine Gilmore, and Beavercreek Mayor, Julie Vann. She served as March Coordinator for the annual MLK celebration, Founder Kettering MLK Breakfast, served on the Board of Community Relations, Elderly Concerns group committee, Neighborhood Pride committee, long-time member of St. Charles Borromeo

Church, serving as Lector and on Parish Council; Volunteer with United Way as Account Chair; Alter High School Board of Trustees; Community Foundation for Kettering Board, and Kettering Medical Center Board of Trustees. She received the Kiwanis "Citizen of the Year" Award in 2004.

While serving as Mayor, she enjoyed the U.S. Conference of Mayor, National League of Cities and working as President of Greater Dayton Mayors and Managers Association. She embraced life, loved to engage with people, and gave tirelessly to her community. She embraced her Irish ancestry and all things related to St Patrick's Day. Thank you to all the extended family, neighbors, and friends that have celebrated with, loved, encouraged and supported Marilou over the years. Special thanks to the staff at HarborChase, Beavercreek, Dr. James Tytko, and Dr. Nicholas Bellanco as well as their staff for the care they provided to Marilou through the years.

There was a small graveside service at Calvary Cemetery. A Celebration of Life is planned when it is safe to gather again, hopefully, in the Summer of 2021. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to: Sisters of Notre Dame Retirement Fund; 701 E. Columbia Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45215 or www.sndohio.org/support-the-sisters Condolences can be shared at Westbrock....com

Cemetery

Calvary Cemetery

1625 Calvary Drive

Dayton, OH, 45409

Comments



“ I can honestly say that Mairlou was one of the nicest people I have ever met. She was always upbeat, friendly and happy!

Mary Kay Rohrkemper - February 11 at 09:04 PM



“ I arrived a little bit late in this life to her. But for sure Im going to see her back one day on heaven and im going to be ready to make her hair looks beautiful, like she always liked.

Sylvette Rosa - January 27 at 05:18 PM



“ Thanks to you and Tiffany (carer) for your caring and affection each and every week. So greatly appreciated it!

Lissa Smith - February 07 at 11:38 AM



“ What a great lady! So kind and willing to meet every challenge! What pleasure to work with her over the years. Charles Curran former county commissioner

charles curran - January 18 at 10:35 AM



“ Thank you for your kind words. Much appreciated.

Lissa Smith - February 07 at 11:39 AM



“ Marilou.....you have to smile when you think of her, even when reading her obituary. She was that special. I don't think she ever met a person she didn't like, and if she did, you never knew it. She had a smile that warmed everyone in her presence. I was fortunate to know Marilou during my years as an ACTIVE volunteer with the city of Kettering and was lucky enough to enjoy her friendship. To Tom and her family, my deepest condolences. Linda J. George

Linda George - January 17 at 11:36 AM



“ Thank you, Linda, for those kind memories. So very appreciated. She LOVED interacting with people. No doubt!

Lissa Smith - February 07 at 11:40 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Marilou's Sentiments



Wendi Flor - January 13 at 01:33 PM



“ To the Smith Family,
You are in our thoughts and prayers . Your parents were wonderful examples of God's Love!

Amy Armstrong Smith - January 13 at 08:16 AM



“ Thank you, Amy!

Lissa Smith - February 07 at 11:42 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear this. I worked at Kettering during her years as Mayor. I was involved with her retirement party. She was an incredible woman that I looked up to. I now live in Georgia, but I know she will be definitely missed in the Dayton area. May you rest in peace, Marilou! -- Tonya Jenkin.

Tonya Jenkin - January 13 at 01:59 AM



“ She was a great lady

Tonya Jenkin - January 13 at 02:14 AM



“ I met Mayor Marilou Smith at Steyr (sister city of Kettering), she was a wonderful person. I will never forget her.

Otti Bruckbauer, Steyr, Austria

Otti Bruckbauer - January 22 at 05:36 PM



“ Thank you, Tonya. She touched so many at the City and appreciated every minute.

Lissa Smith - February 07 at 11:43 AM



“ Otti, she was so proud of her interaction with Steyr. And that involvement with you all definitely laid a foundation for her political life. Thank you so much for posting.

Lissa Smith - February 07 at 11:46 AM



“ PHYLLIS TANGEMAN is following this tribute.

PHYLLIS TANGEMAN - January 11 at 03:19 PM



“ So sorry with the loss of Aunt Marilou. She was a wonderful person who always had a smile and a generous, warm and friendly greeting. We had so many great times together growing up and those memories are treasured. Thank you so much for sharing the photos, videos and music, along with the invitation to the service. You are all in our prayers. Love you all, Rob & Sue Smith, Emily, Julia & Nick.

Robert Smith - January 11 at 01:42 PM



“ Jenny, Shelly, Scott, Mich, Lissa, Susan and Stasia, I wanted to tell you all how sorry I am for your loss. Your Mom and Dad exemplified a rare love that lasted for over 70 years. Everyone they came in contact with was always greeted with a huge smile! Their happiness was infectious! I love you guys and your families and will be sending prayers your way! BTW, your slide shows are fantastic!

Love,

Greg

Greg Smith - January 11 at 10:54 AM



“ 1 file added to the album What I Am Thankful For



Susan Gaunce - January 10 at 09:07 PM



“ I encourage everyone to read this, written by Mom in her own words.

Lissa - January 13 at 09:04 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Marilou Smith Slideshow #3



Susan Gaunce - January 10 at 08:37 PM



“ WONDERFUL

ROBERT L TANGEMAN - January 11 at 02:24 PM



“ that took a few tissues to get through

ellen quinttus - January 12 at 11:18 AM



“ Beautiful your parents were sunshine ! They were wonderful examples of God's love. May they enjoy the heavenly celebration!

Amy Armstrong Smith - January 13 at 08:14 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Marilou Smith Slideshow #2



Susan Gaunce - January 10 at 06:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Marilou Smith Slideshow #1



Susan Gaunce - January 10 at 05:26 PM



“ EXCELLENT SUSAN

PHYLLIS - January 11 at 03:27 PM



“ EXCELLENT

PHYLLIS - January 11 at 03:28 PM



“ WONDERFUL

PHYLLIS - January 11 at 03:29 PM



“ I first watched these videos on my phone. They are even more fun and engaging on my computer. What a life! What memories! Well done, Susan!

Lissa - January 12 at 05:09 PM



“ What an incredible life your mother led! She is in the Heavens, shining as a Star, no doubt. Sending much love to you and your family Lissa.

Eileen - January 13 at 03:12 PM



“ Marilou was not only a terrific mayor, but an even better person. She was generous with her time and concern and Alter HS was blessed to have her as a volunteer and member of the Board. Prayers for the family. May she rest in peace.

Maureen Willits - January 09 at 09:17 PM



“ My deepest condolences. Your mother will always be one of my favorite persons that I had the privilege to know and work with at the City. Sending thoughts and prayers for her loved ones.

Diane - January 09 at 07:25 PM